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**From:** Region 8 Collaborative Workspace [no-reply@sharepointonline.com]  
**Sent:** 4/3/2019 5:38:29 PM  
**To:** Schmit, Ayn [Schmit.Ayn@epa.gov]  
**Subject:** R8 Hot Issues - Lake Kookcanusa/Kootenai Transboundary... has been changed

 Lake Kookcanusa/Kootenai Transboundary... has been changed



Garcia, Bert

4/3/2019 11:36 AM

**Next Significant Milestone** 4/15/2019

**Title** Lake Kookcanusa/Kootenai Transboundary Water Quality

**Lead Division** WD

**Assigned To** O'Connor, Darcy; Garcia, Bert; Schmit, Ayn

**Brief** Extensive coal mining in the Elk River watershed in British Columbia has released  
**Description** pollutants, including selenium, into the US/Canada transboundary Lake Kookcanusa. The Montana Department of Environmental Quality is working with the British Columbia Ministry of Environment and Climate Change Strategies and other parties, including EPA, to develop site-specific water quality criteria for selenium in the Lake. The EPA will need to review and approve Montana's revised selenium criteria once they are submitted. At some locations and times, fish tissue and water concentrations in the lake exceed EPA's recommended selenium criterion, Tribes in Montana and Idaho have fishing treaty rights in and around Lake Kookcanusa and have expressed concerns to EPA, the State Department, Montana and British Columbia about increasing impacts to the watershed and the lack of a formal Tribal role in decisions regarding the watershed.

**Issue Status** Active

**Action Required Within** 30 days

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